

I-35W/I-494 Interchange

Proposed Phase 1

Legend

- Proposed Roadway Phase 1
- Proposed Bridge
- Accommodates Met Transit Orange Line improvement



I-35W/I-494 PHASE 1

RESCOPING PROJECT ADDRESSES FISCAL CONSTRAINT CHALLENGES

The junction of I-35W and I-494 is the busiest and one of the most congested and unsafe intersections in Minnesota. Designed almost 60 years ago with very few modifications since, the over-capacity interchange carries nearly 500,000 vehicles each day, with many vehicle crashes occurring in and around the area. The I-494 corridor commute is ranked as the 17th worst commute in the entire nation. Approximately 21 percent of metro-area jobs are located along the I-494 corridor. Conditions will continue to deteriorate if improvements are not made soon.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation's 2013 Rescoping Project recommended a "turbine interchange" for the congested I-35W and I-494 interchange that could be constructed in phases. The entire interchange turbine design, projected to be completed for \$350 million, is an important project for the metro area with both traffic and development potential. Phase construction will make this concept a reality.

Phase 1 interchange improvements would include making temporary lanes to accommodate rerouted traffic, rebuilding of the 82nd Street bridge over I-35W, and constructing access from north-bound I-35W to west-bound I-494. The Phase 1 project accommodates alternative transportation in the form of an Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) transitway.

COST

This portion of the Phase 1 project is estimated to cost \$85 million.

QUESTIONS

For more information, contact

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